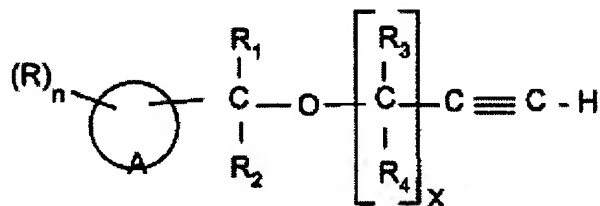


carrying a hydrogen atom on a triple bond, with an alkylation agent, in the presence of an anionisation agent.

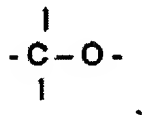
24. (New) A process according to claim 23, wherein in that the starting mixed ether of benzyl/alkynyl type has the following general formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

- A represents a residue of a cycle forming all or a part of an aromatic, monocyclic or polycyclic, carbocyclic or heterocyclic system comprising at least one group of formula:

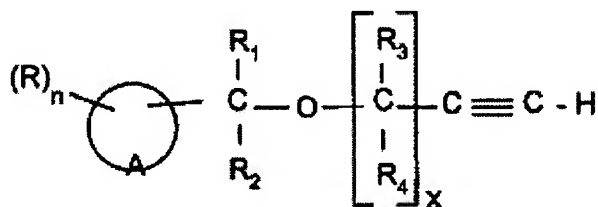


- R represents one or more substituent(s), which are identical or different,
- R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom, a functional group, a hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 24 carbon atoms, which is linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, an acyclic, saturated or unsaturated, aliphatic group, a monocyclic, polycyclic or aromatic cycloaliphatic group, or a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated aliphatic group having a cyclic substituent,
- R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub>, which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 12 carbon atoms,

- n is a number smaller than or equal to 5, and
- x is a number from 1 to 10.

25. (New) A process according to claim 24, wherein x is a number from 1 to 5.

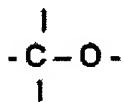
26. (New) A process according to claim 23, wherein in that the starting mixed ether of benzyl/alkynyl type has the following general formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

- A represents a residue of a cycle forming all or a part of an aromatic, monocyclic or polycyclic, carbocyclic or heterocyclic system comprising at least one group of formula:



- R represents one or more substituent(s), which are identical or different,
- R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, which are identical or different, represent:
  - a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, acyclic alkyl group, having an hydrocarbon chain, comprising 1 to 6 carbon atoms, the hydrocarbon chain being optionally interrupted by a heteroatom, or a functional group, and carrying optionally substituents,

- hy  
- m

28. (New) A process according to claim 27, wherein A is a residue of a benzene or naphthalene cycle, optionally substituted.

29. (New) A process according to claim 27, wherein A carry one or more electron-donating group(s) selected from the group consisting of:

- linear or branched alkyl groups,
- linear or branched alkenyl groups,
- linear or branched halogenoalkyl groups,
- cycloalkyl groups comprising 3 to 6 carbon atoms,
- a phenyl group,
- alkoxy groups of formula  $R_5-O-$  or thioether groups of formula  $R_5-S-$ , wherein  $R_5$  represents a linear or branched alkyl group comprising 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or a phenyl group,
- groups of formula  $-N-(R_6)_2$ , wherein  $R_6$  groups, which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom, a linear or branched alkyl group comprising 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or a phenyl group, and
- a  $-CF_3$  group.

30. (New) A process according to claim 27, wherein A carry one or more electron-donating group(s) selected from the group consisting of:

- linear or branched alkyl groups, comprising 1 to 4 carbon atoms,
- linear or branched alkenyl groups, comprising 2 to 4 carbon atoms,
- linear or branched halogenoalkyl groups, comprising 1 to 4 carbon atoms,
- a cyclohexyl group,
- a phenyl group,

- alkoxy groups of formula  $R_5-O-$  or thioether groups of formula  $R_5-S-$ , wherein  $R_5$  represents a linear or branched alkyl group comprising 1 to 4 carbon atoms, or a phenyl group,
- groups of formula  $-N-(R_6)_2$ , wherein  $R_6$  groups, which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom, a linear or branched alkyl group comprising 1 to 4 carbon atoms, or a phenyl group, and
- a  $-CF_3$  group.

31. (New) A process according to claim 24, wherein n is greater than or equal to 2, two groups R and 2 successive atoms on the aromatic cycle being bonded together via an alkylene, alkenylene or alkenylidene group containing 2 to 4 carbon atoms, to form a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic heterocycle containing 5 to 7 carbon atoms, one or more carbon atoms being optionally replaced by a further heteroatom.

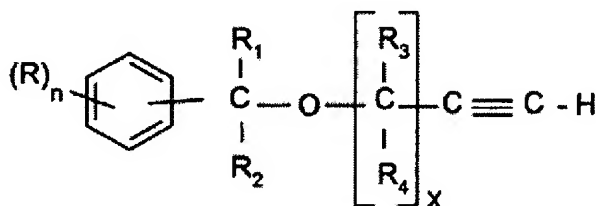
32. (New) A process according to claim 24, wherein n is greater than or equal to 2, two groups R and 2 successive atoms on the aromatic cycle being bonded together via an alkylene, alkenylene or alkenylidene group containing 2 to 4 carbon atoms, to form a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic heterocycle containing 5 to 7 carbon atoms, one or more carbon atoms being optionally replaced by a further oxygen atom.

33. (New) A process according to claim 24, wherein  $R_3$  and  $R_4$ , which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 12 carbon atoms.

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34. (New) A process according to claim 33, wherein  $R_3$  and  $R_4$ , which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

35. (New) A process according to claim 23, wherein that the starting mixed ether of benzyl/alkynyl type has the following general formula (Ia):

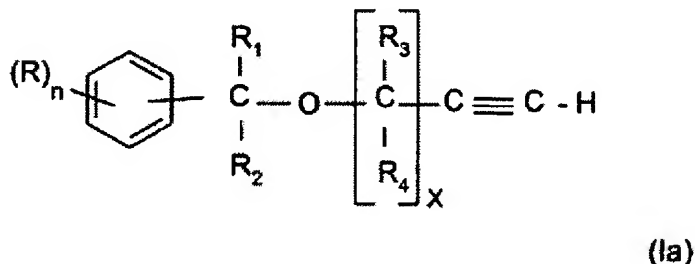


(Ia)

wherein:

- n is a number equal to or smaller than 4,
- x is a number equal to 1, 2 or 3,
- R group or groups are electron-donating groups,
- $R_1$  and  $R_2$  groups, which are identical or different, represent:
  - a hydrogen atom,
  - a linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms,
  - a cycloalkyl group containing 3 to 8 carbon atoms,
  - a phenyl group,
  - a phenylalkyl group containing 7 to 12 carbon atoms, or
  - a  $\text{CF}_3$  group, and
- $R_3$  and  $R_4$  groups, which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

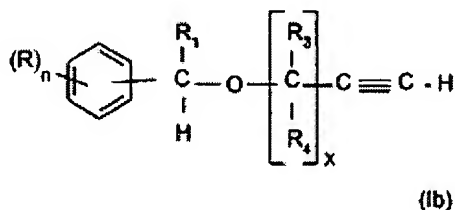
36. (New) A process according to claim 23, wherein that the starting mixed ether of benzyl/alkynyl type has the following general formula (Ia):



wherein:

- n is 1 or 2,
- x is a number equal to 1, 2 or 3,
- R group or groups are methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy groups,
- R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> groups, which are identical or different, represent:
  - a hydrogen atom,
  - a methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl group,
  - a cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl group,
  - a phenyl group,
  - a benzyl group, or
  - a CF<sub>3</sub> group, and
- R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> groups, which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

37. (New) A process according to claim 23, wherein the starting mixed ether of benzyl/alkynyl type has the following formula (Ib):



wherein:

- n is equal to 1 or 2,
- R group or groups represent an alkyl or alkoxy group containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms, or a methylenedioxy group, and
- R<sub>1</sub> represents a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

38. (New) A process according to claim 23, wherein the starting mixed ether of benzyl/alkynyl type is [1-(prop-1-ynyloxy)ethyl]-3,4 dimethoxybenzene.

39. (New) A process according claim 23, wherein the alkylation agent is a dialkylsulphate or a halide compound.

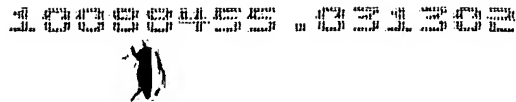
40. (New) A process according to claim 39, wherein the alkylation agent is a dialkylsulphate having the following formula (IVa):



wherein R<sub>7</sub> represents a linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

41. (New) A process according to claim 39, wherein the alkylation agent is a halide compound having the following formula (IVb):





wherein:

- $R_8$  represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, acyclic aliphatic hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic, monocyclic or polycyclic, cycloaliphatic group, or a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated aliphatic group carrying a cyclic substituent, and
- X represents a bromine, chlorine or iodine atom.

42. (New) A process according to claim 41, wherein X represents a chlorine atom or an iodine atom and  $R_8$  represents a linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

43. (New) A process according to claim 39, wherein the alkylation agent is dimethylsulphate, methyl iodide, methyl chloride, chloroethane, methyl bromide or bromoethane.

44. (New) A process according to claim 23, wherein the anionisation agent is an amide base, a metallic alcoholate or an alkali metal.

45. (New) A process according to claim 44, wherein the anionisation agent is selected from the group consisting of lithium diisopropylamide, lithium hexamethyldisilazane, prepared or used in situ by the action of a strong lithiated base on a corresponding amine, alkali metal alcoholates, sodium, and potassium.

46. (New) A process according to claim 45, wherein the alkali metal alcoholate is sodium or potassium methylate, ethylate or tert-butylate.


47. (New) A process according to claim 45, wherein the anionisation agent is sodium or potassium amide.

48. (New) A process according to claim 23, wherein the reaction is carried out in an organic solvent that is inert towards the anionisation agent.

49. (New) A process according to claim 48, wherein the organic solvent is an aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon.

50. (New) A process according to claim 23, wherein the temperature of the reaction is comprised between 20°C and a reflux temperature of the reaction mixture.

51. (New) A process according to claim 50, wherein the temperature is comprised between 50°C and 80°C.

 52. (New) A process according claim 24, wherein the starting mixed ether of benzyl/alkynyl type of formula (I) and the anionisation agent are brought into contact in a reaction medium, the reaction medium being heated to a desired temperature, the alkylation agent being then added, and the substituted mixed ether of benzyl/alkynyl type obtained being recovered.

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